

GB 2 194 487. Accordingly, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

REMARKS

In claim 32 defines a reel and housing wherein the housing has "a plurality of markings thereon," and being arranged "so that said markings are detectable by detecting means external to said cassette to provide information relating to the rotation of said reel."

It is respectfully submitted that GB 2 194 487 does not contain a teaching of such a structure. For example, reference numeral 32 in '487 merely denotes an ink ribbon which as far as can be ascertained from '487 is entirely conventional and does not contain any markings.

The examiner has also referred to ribbon end sensor 302 which is referred to on page 6, line 123. This ribbon end sensor detects the end of the ink ribbon, but is not disclosed as being capable of detecting any markings thereon. Also, it does not detect information relating to rotation of the reel, but merely the ends of the ink ribbon and/or the presence of the ink ribbon

As noted in the Response filed June 5, 2001, the '487 patent discloses a printer for printing on sheet paper (not a tape printing apparatus) whereby the print head is carried on a carriage supported on a guide shaft. In the apparatus disclosed in the '487 patent the ink ribbon is held stationary during printing while the carriage moves from left to right. The printer of the '487 patent is capable of printing via a thermal ink ribbon or directly onto thermally sensitive paper without the ribbon. The printing method used by the printer is dependent on whether or not an ink ribbon is present. The detecting means disclosed in the '487 patent is provided by an optical sensor which detects the presence or absence of the ink ribbon, as is disclosed on page 7, lines 54-63. The control means is provided by a CPU which establishes the mode of printing in dependence on the signal received from the optical sensor, and this feature is disclosed on page 7,

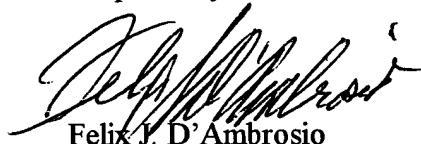
lines 71-84.

Again, the '487 patent does not provide detecting means to detect a characteristic indicative of movement in order to determine that an ink ribbon is present. Furthermore, the '487 patent does not disclose, as noted above, a tape printing apparatus, but a printer for printing on sheet paper whereby the print head is carried on a carriage supported on a guide shaft.

It is well settled that a single reference can anticipate a claim only if all of the positively recited limitation are found in that one reference. See *In re Bond*, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990). What an element does also contributes to its identity for purposes of 35 USC 102.

Reconsideration and re-examination is again requested, and in view of the foregoing, the examiner is urged to allow claims 32-35 as well.

Respectfully submitted



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March 20, 2002

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